

CLAIMS

1. A photocatalyst comprising particles of an artificial quartz crystal after treatment with hydrogen fluoride.
2. The photocatalyst according to Claim 1 wherein the particles have a particle diameter of 3.0 mm or smaller.
3. The photocatalyst according to Claim 2 wherein the particles have a particle diameter of 2.0 mm or smaller.
4. A method for preparation of a photocatalyst which comprises a step of pulverizing an artificial quartz crystal into particles having a particle diameter of 3.0 mm or smaller and a step of activating the particles by immersing the same in a solution containing hydrogen fluoride.
5. A cleaning method for detoxification of an environmental pollutant which comprises a step of bringing a gas or liquid containing the environmental pollutant into contact, under irradiation of activating light, with the photocatalyst according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 in an oxidizing condition.
6. The cleaning method according to Claim 5 wherein the environmental pollutant is a nitrogen oxide and the contacting step is conducted in the presence of water.